opportunities within the Kingdom, and will help Tonga to become as economically self-sufficient as possible. Meanwhile, with a modest budget, she is also striving to improve educational and medical facilities and domestic social conditions.

Internal air-service is now functioning within the Kingdom, and plans for an airstrip to land international jets are being materialized; Tonga also intends to establish her own airline, called "Friendly Islands Air." These things, in addition to expanding international and local cargo and passenger shipping services, will hopefully serve to improve Tonga's communications and relations with the world, and

509
508
506

**Inter-island flights** within the kingdom are now possible. Besides the largest airport on Tongatapu, there is a smaller one in **Vava'u** *(below)*, one on 'Eua, and another to open soon in Ha'apai.

**Kuo lava eni ke puna vakapuna** e kakai ki he ngaahi feitu'u kehekehe 'o Tonga. 'Oku 'i ai e mala'e vakapuna 'i Fua'amotu, taha 'i Vava'u *(ta 'i lalo)*, taha 'i 'Eua, pea 'oku fakaengaanga e taha ki Ha'apai.

[p. 55-C]

39: Gerstle & Raitt C,Q-4,5 (1952-1972) 1974 009 Tonga 009

/230 cont./

501
177
484

"kalia" (see Th. Williams, Fiji and the Fijians /cited in English/. Third ed... London 1870. p. 64; W.C. McKern, Archaeology of Tonga /cited in English/. p. 121). A description of "kalia," for example in Th. West, Ten Years.../cited in English./ pp. 49/50. which in construction and speed once aroused the admiration of the great European seafarers, and with which the natives set out for distant destinations, such as Samoa, Fiji, Niue, Futuma, Uvea, Totuma and even some of the Ellice and Gilbert Islands. (605)

605. See E. W. Gifford, Tongan Society /cited in English/. pp. 14/15, 205.

505 The Tongans who wish to travel to Samoa, Fiji, New Zealand or Australia for visits or for educational purposes use the New Zealand steamer which makes an approximately monthly round trip: Auckland--/231/ Suva--Nuku'alofa--Neiafu--Apia--Suva--Auckland. (606)

606. With occasional stops at Niue. The old hopes that Tonga would become a point of intersection of trans-Pacific routes were not fulfilled because of the development of the Fiji colony. Thus the Archipelago still lies at the edge of world traffic. Except for the "monthly steamer" from New Zealand, freighters only occasionally stop at Nuku'alofa or Vava'u to deliver goods or take on copra. An airfield built a few years ago on Tongatapu provided passenger service only from January 1, 1950 to July 2, 1951; then the New Zealand company discontinued this line's service which was apparently uprofitable. However, there are plans for a resumption and expansion of air connections (with Fiji, New Zealand and West Samoa).

[508]

For journeys from Tongatapu and Vava'u the natives like to use the monthly steamer. For the rest, traffic within the Archipelago is served by the auxiliary ketch "Hifofua" of the government, the auxiliary ketch "Aoniu" of the Copra Board, (607)

[501]